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PAGE 01            STATE 174367  
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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TAGS:    PGOV, BQG, BZ

SUBJECT:    PRESIDENTIAL INITIATIVE ON BERLIN

1. ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE REQUESTED TO DELIVER THE  
FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO HOST COUNTRY  
FOREIGN MINISTERS ASAP.

BEGIN TEXT.

2. DEAR (GEOFFREY) (JEAN-BERNARD) (HANS-DIETRICH) ,

AS YOU KNOW THE PRESIDENT HAS SENT LETTERS TO PRIME  
MINISTER THATCHER, PRESIDENT MITTERRAND AND CHANCELLOR

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02            STATE 174367

KOHL INFORMING THEM ABOUT VARIOUS COMPONENTS OF A BERLIN  
INITIATIVE WHICH THE PRESIDENT WILL REFER TO IN HIS JUNE  
12 SPEECH AT THE BRANDENBURG GATE. AMBASSADOR BURT HAS  
ALSO BEEN DISCUSSING THE IDEA OF A BERLIN INITIATIVE WITH

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(YOUR AMBASSADORS -- UK, FRANCE) (YOUR COLLEAGUES -- FRG)  
IN BONN.

WE WISH TO WORK CLOSELY WITH ALL OF YOU TO FASHION A  
REALISTIC PROPOSAL TO PRESENT TO THE SOVIETS. I THINK IT  
MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR US TO DISCUSS THIS INITIATIVE  
BRIEFLY AT OUR MEETING IN REYKJAVIK ON BERLIN MATTERS ON  
JUNE 11. I UNDERSTAND THAT OUR POLITICAL DIRECTORS AND  
BERLIN EXPERTS WILL DISCUSS IT PRIOR TO OUR MEETING.

SOON AFTER REYKJAVIK WE SHOULD BEGIN TO DEVELOP AN AGREED  
POSITION AND SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO PUT TO THE SOVIETS.

WE ALSO ANTICIPATE PRESS INQUIRIES ABOUT THE BERLIN  
INITIATIVE SUBSEQUENT TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPEECH. OUR OWN  
INTENTION IS TO RESPOND ONLY IN THE MOST GENERAL TERMS  
ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

-- IN HIS JUNE 12 SPEECH AT THE BRANDENBURG GATE  
PRESIDENT REAGAN CHALLENGES THE SOVIETS TO LOWER THE  
BARRIERS THAT DIVIDE EUROPE AND PARTICULARLY BERLIN. HE  
SUGGESTS POSSIBLE STEPS TO OPEN UP EAST-WEST CONTACTS  
WITHIN BERLIN TO EXPAND BERLIN'S ROLE AS WORLD MEETING  
PLACE AND TO IMPROVE THE VITAL AIR ACCESS TO AND FROM  
WEST BERLIN -- DEVELOPING WEST BERLIN AS AN AVIATION HUB.

-- THE SPEECH SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. WE ARE CONSULTING WITH  
OUR BRITISH AND FRENCH ALLIES.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03            STATE   174367

-- AS THE PRESIDENT SAID IN HIS SPEECH, WE CALL ON THE  
OTHER SIDE TO JOIN WITH US IN OVERCOMING BARRIERS AND  
OPENING BERLIN STILL FURTHER TO ALL OF EUROPE, EAST AND  
WEST.

I HOPE THIS APPROACH IS AGREEABLE.

SINCERELY, SHULTZ

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